



# Amador Fire Safe Council

PO Box 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665

www.AmadorFireSafe.org



March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

3:00-5:00

Virtual & In-Person Meeting

The February Meeting will be held in-person and as a virtual meeting

Attend In-Person	Attend Virtually
19888 Church Street, Pine Grove (Behind to the Pine Grove Park) Volcano Communications Tech Center	Join Zoom Meeting <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2674846542">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2674846542</a> Meeting ID: 267 484 6542 Passcode: AFSC Call-In Number: 1(669)900-6833 Code: 2674846542#

## AGENDA

1. Approve/Modify Agenda\*
2. Approve/Modify February Minutes\*
3. Introductions
4. Treasurers Report (John)\*
5. Lockwood Neighborhood Radio Watch Update (Jackie Vaughn, LNRW)
6. Coordinator Report
  - a. Project Updates
  - b. Ingress/Egress Project Presentation (Amanda & Ed Struffenegger - RPF)
  - c. Review Community Projects\*
7. Website Discussion (Frank)
8. Fire Safe Ordinance Committee (Connie)
9. AlertWildfire Cameras Project Update (Frank)
10. FireWise Community Groups Update (Dick)
11. Public Comment
12. Other items/adjourn

\*Action items  
Meeting will be recorded.



## Amador Fire Safe Council

PO Box 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665

[www.AmadorFireSafe.org](http://www.AmadorFireSafe.org)

February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Volcano Communications Tech Center

3:00-5:00



### MINUTES

Present: Dana Simpson, Frank Leschinsky, Dick Stamm, Susan Peters, Connie Gonzales, John Heissenbuttel, Pat Minyard, Jay Francis in person & Richard Yarnell via telephone

Staff: Amanda Watson via Zoom

Public: Nell & Rocky Raymond, Kayla Dale, Ralph Meier, and Supervisor Jeff Brown. Several others attended via Zoom.

1. Approve/Modify Agenda – Pat called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. The proposed Agenda was approved unanimously.
2. Approve/Modify January Minutes – The January 2022 minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Introductions – Board members and the public in attendance introduced themselves. Several others attended via Zoom.
4. Treasurers Report – John reported that as of **1/31/22** we had an account balance of **\$598,038**. John stated that while the total balance is accurate, some of the unrestricted funds have been used to pay some other bills but all accounts will be properly reconciled before the next meeting. It is imperative that we do this and maintain complete transparency. Due to reporting confusion, the \$35,000 contribution from Break Even Beermakers had been “double-counted” but will be corrected.
5. Coordinator Report – see attached Coordinator Report for specifics.
  - a. Project Updates – The public road projects are still being held up by the CALFIRE permit process. Ed Struffenegger will give an update at a future meeting. Amanda stated she had signed a partnership agreement with Megan Watts to help with administrative duties/outreach for this project. Amanda will have a list of all public roads to be treated. The Public Roads Project will go back to bid as the selected contractor realized they had inadvertently priced for only one side of road clearing and wished to withdraw their bid. The Community Fuel Break Grant application was submitted on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Amanda displayed before & after photos of the Mitchell Mine Fuel Break.
  - b. Community Fuel Break Project – Nell Raymond of the River Pines FireWise group gave an update on the proposed 200 acre project on 8 parcels surrounding River Pines and tying in with the recently completed project 50-acre fuel break southeast of town. A grant request of \$726,000 has been made to the CALFIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program to pay for the required CEQA documentation and the construction. It is hoped that this project can serve as a model for other FireWise communities

6. AFSC Strategic Plan – Amanda asked if there were any additional changes to the Strategic Plan that had been modified at the last meeting. No new changes so the revised Plan was unanimously accepted.
7. Website Discussion – Frank reported on the progress that has been made with the AFSC website. With the additional personnel we will now have, it should be easier to keep the site updated including the posting of Zoom recorded meetings. Nell suggested we look into Streamline, a platform that hosts Fire Safe Councils and FireWise Communities websites.
8. Virtual Meeting Software/Annual Zoom License – Amanda stated that the Zoom software is much more user friendly and capable of hosting up to 100 users/meeting. It will also record video for posting the meetings. Cost is \$14/month or \$149/year. The Board voted to acquire an annual license.
9. Fire Safe Ordinance Committee – Supervisor Jeff Brown said he is still trying to find a time to meet with CALFIRE Chief Mike Blankenheim. The ordinance is written but they want to ensure agreement upon inspections and payment.
10. AlertWildfire Cameras Project Update –Frank said there was nothing new to report but will ask Dr. Kent if he would be willing to attend in person or virtually to give an update on the project.
11. Firewise Communities Groups – Dick reported that there are now five approved FireWise Communities in the county. A total of 20 communities representing 4,200 parcels and 3,500 homes have been identified. Dick & Kayla Dale will meet with representatives of any communities to answer any questions and encourage their participation. A large metal sign explaining the FireWise program is currently being developed.
12. Lockwood Neighborhood Radio Watch Update – No report as Jackie Vaughn was not in attendance.
13. Public Comment – Supervisor Brown stated that Verizon has expressed an interest in constructing a cell tower across from the old Cedar Mill and AT&T wants to put one at Mollie Joyce Park. The public is taking full advantage of the free green-waste dump site at Pioneer Park where up to 80 semi-truck loads of material has been collected so far. Still trying to figure out a solution of what to do with the material and whether a long-term program would be feasible.
14. Other items/adjourn – Kayla Dale stated that the California State Fire Safe Council will have a presence at the upcoming Smokechaser event on May 21-22.

*Meeting Adjourned at 4:58 pm*

# AMADOR FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

2022 Budget

As of Feb 28 2022

## Expenses

### Grants Expenses

305 AFSC Coordinator	56,000.00	1	6,064.08
306 Coordinator Assistant	16,800.00	2	0.00
310 RPF Professional Forester	125,000.00		0.00
315 Environmental Documentation	60,000.00		0.00
320 Groundwork Contracted Labor	900,000.00	3	0.00
Total Grant Expenses			<b>6,064.08</b>

### Operating Expenses

302 Depreciation	450.00		0.00
311 Bookkeeper (2021 actual is through 11/21)	4,000.00		0.00
321 State Filing Fees	85.00		0.00
330 Insurance, D&O	1,800.00		0.00
343 Bank Charges	200.00		0.00
345 Office Supplies	1,500.00		39.70
346 Postage	400.00		0.00
350 Outreach	20,000.00	4	1,298.95
365 Professional Fees	600.00	5	0.00
365 Telephone	375.00		
370 Milage	4,000.00		
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>33,410.00</b>		<b>1,338.65</b>

### Total Expenses

**7,402.73**

## Revenue

### Grants

PG&E CEMA Program	50,000.00	6	
SNC Tiger Creek Planning	0.00		5,977.13
SNC Tiger Creek Implementation	270,000.00	7	
SNC Tiger Creek Enhancement	50,000.00	8	66,060.00
CAL FIRE Mitchell Mine	170,000.00	9	
CAL FIRE Ingress/Egress	425,000.00	10	

SNC County Steward Planning	0.00	
SNC County Steward Implementation	125,000.00	11
Defensible Space	0.00	
CAL FIRE Pine Acres Maintenance	50,000.00	12
CAFSC County Coordinator	115,000.00	13
Volcano Communications Grant	5,000.00	14
Contributions	70,000.00	15
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,330,000.00</b>	<b>137,122.13</b>

1. Assumes 80 hours/month, includes back pay for approved raise.
2. Assumes 40 hours/month @ \$35/hour.
3. \$100K available outside of grant obligations for public requests.
4. Reflects outreach in Ingress/Egress grant which includes support of organizing Firewise Communities.
5. Tax preparation.
6. Assumes we receive grant.
7. 80 acres of mastication currently under contract. 13 acres of handwork on south side of reservoir currently under contract. Bird surveys as required after 3/1/22. Signage. Use funds currently in account.
8. 10 acres of handwork late fall 2022.
9. 11 acres of handwork. Use funds currently in account.
10. Assumes 30 miles of road clearance, AFSC conducting 8 town halls and RPF filing exemption.
11. Assumes we secure implementation grant and begin by masticating 50 acres in fall of 2022.
12. Environmental documentation.
13. Staff time and outreach, \$175K grant runs from 12/21 to 3/23.
14. To be used to upgrade AFSC communications technology.
15. \$35K already secured from Morgan-Stanley and Schwab, \$35K pledged by Break Even Beermakers.

<b>Amador Fire Safe Council Fund Balances</b>	<b>as of 12/1/2021</b>	<b>Bank Balance as of 02/28/2022</b>
3000 Unrestricted	23534.46	71,115.97
4206 Mitchel Mine	169,514.46	169,523.08
4222 Tiger Creek Implementation	268,161.69	268,174.92
4230 SNC County Steward Implementation	17,430.40	17,431.27
4255 PG&E	588.03	288.23
4420 CFSC Coordinator		29,980.81
4412 Tiger Creek Enhance		36,040.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 479,229.04</b>	<b>\$ 592,554.83</b>



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# Ingress & Egress Projects

Presentation to the AFSC Board

March 16<sup>th</sup> 2022

# A piece of a larger plan...

## Evacuation Planning and Preparation



PREPARING COMMUNITIES AND COUNTY FOR EVACUATION IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY. AFSC MAKES A CLEAR DISTINCTION THAT AFSC IS NOT THE AUTHORITY ON EVACUATION, BUT A PARTNER HELPING TO PLAN AND IMPLEMENT PROJECTS THAT ASSIST TO PREPARE FOR A FIRE.



FOCUSED EFFORT: MAPPING MAPPING EVACUATION ROUTES WITH INPUT FROM THE EVACUATION COMMITTEE FORMED IN 2019. MAPS WERE DEVELOPED AND ARE NOW USED BY EMERGENCY RESPONDERS.



FOCUSED EFFORT: ROADSIDE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AFSC WORKS WITH COMMUNITIES TO TREAT ROADWAYS THAT ARE OVERGROWN WITH VEGETATION, ALLOWING FOR SAFER INGRESS/EGRESS IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.

# Example Prescription

- Treatment area includes 20 feet off the drivable surface of the roadway or to a fence line.
- Fuels to be treated include removal of brush and small trees (up to 14" dbh for hardwood species and up to 12" dbh for conifer species) and pruning of ladder fuels (along the bole, at least 10' from ground level). Annuals such as grasses should not be targeted for treatment.
- The target for both hardwoods and conifers is approximately 30-foot by 30-foot spacing.
- All material are chipped or treated by hand.
- Trees within the treatment area shall be cut flush at the ground level and fuels chipped and blown back as evenly as possible onto the treatment site.
- All dead and dying trees of any species and any size must be felled and treated.
- Limbs of remaining trees shall be pruned along the bole vertically at least 10 feet from the ground level. Limbs overhanging the road shall be treated (removed/chipped). These pruned limbs shall be cut flush with the tree bole. All pruned material will be chipped or masticated.

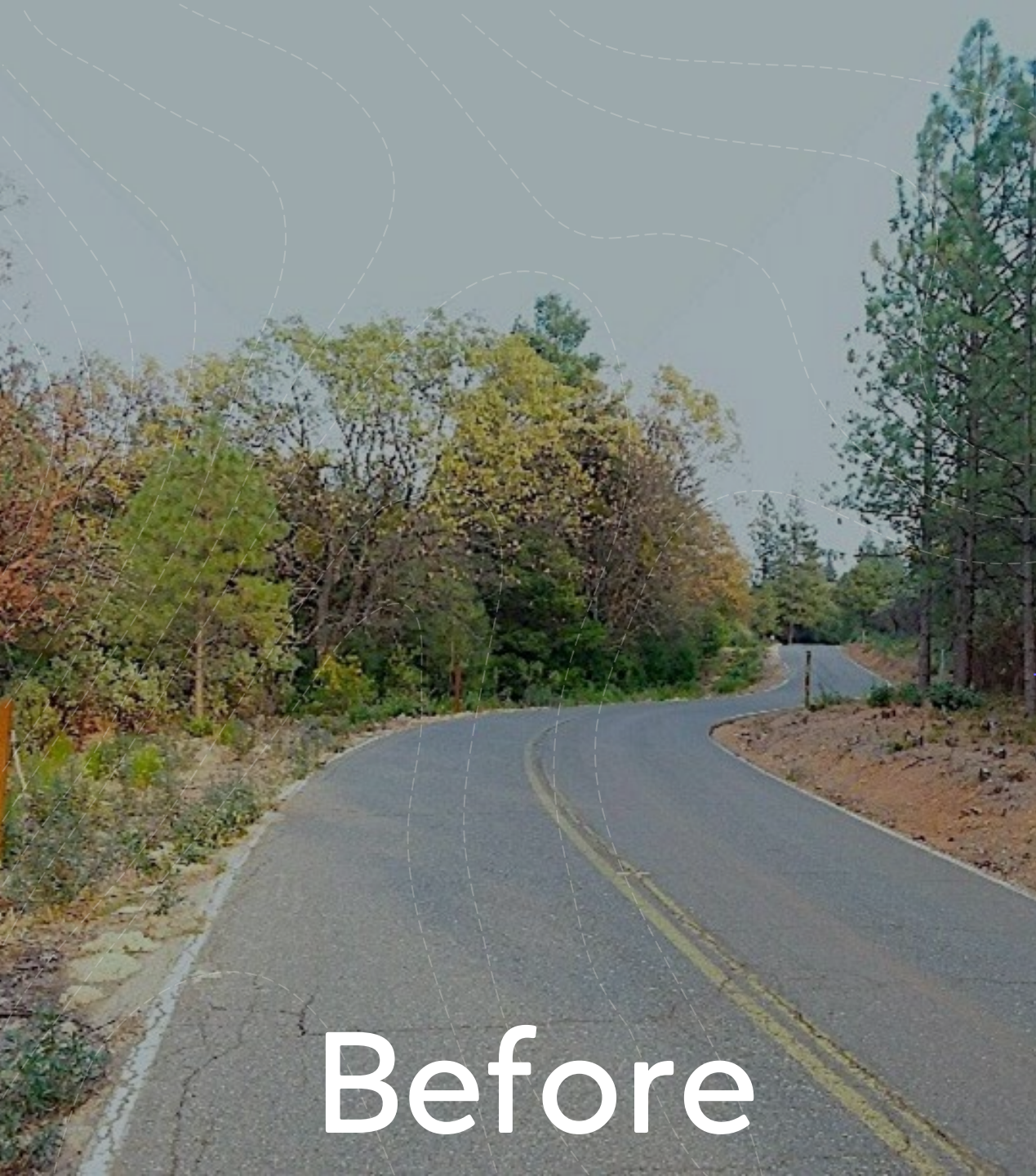




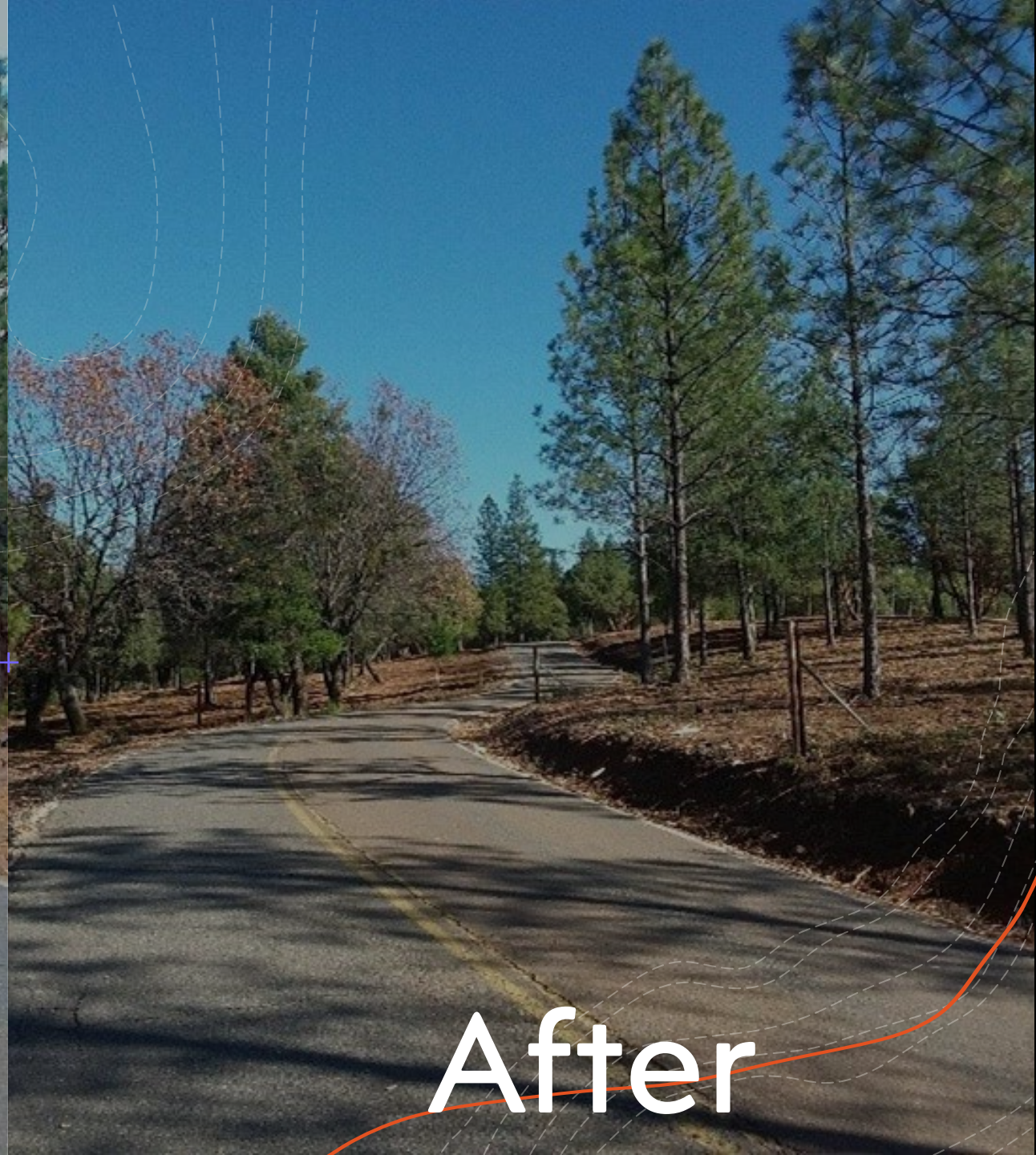
Before



After



Before



After

# Amador County Collaborative Ingress/Egress and Education Project

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In 2019 the AFSC received funding, from CalFire Wildfire Prevention grant program, to continue developing of evacuation map planning, assist FireWise Communities, and implement roadside vegetation clearing on 60 miles of private and public road.

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In 2022 the AFSC received additional funding, from CalFire Wildfire Prevention grant program, to treat an additional 40 miles of road .

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AFSC worked with Amador County to identify priority county roads/evacuation that need vegetation treatment. The AFSC will be treating 20 miles of county roads in 2022.

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Through the uses of priority evacuation mapping and community submitted projects that AFSC will treat over 60 miles of private roads in 2022-2023.

# Collecting Community Input

[amadorfiresafe.org/propose-a-project](http://amadorfiresafe.org/propose-a-project)



**Amador Fire Safe Council**  
POBox 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665  
AmadorFireSafe@gmail.com  
[www.AmadorFireSafe.org](http://www.AmadorFireSafe.org)

## Project Submittal Form

Please submit this form to the AFSC:  
P.O. Box 1055, Pine Grove, CA 95665  
AmadorFireSafe@gmail.com

Proposer Contact Information:

Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

Name	Address	Phone #	Email Address
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Proposed Project Location (Attach a map to this form with project area highlighted):

Proposed Action:

What are the needs for this project (i.e. funding, guidance, community support, etc.)?

Does your community have a road association or homeowners' association, if so what is it called?

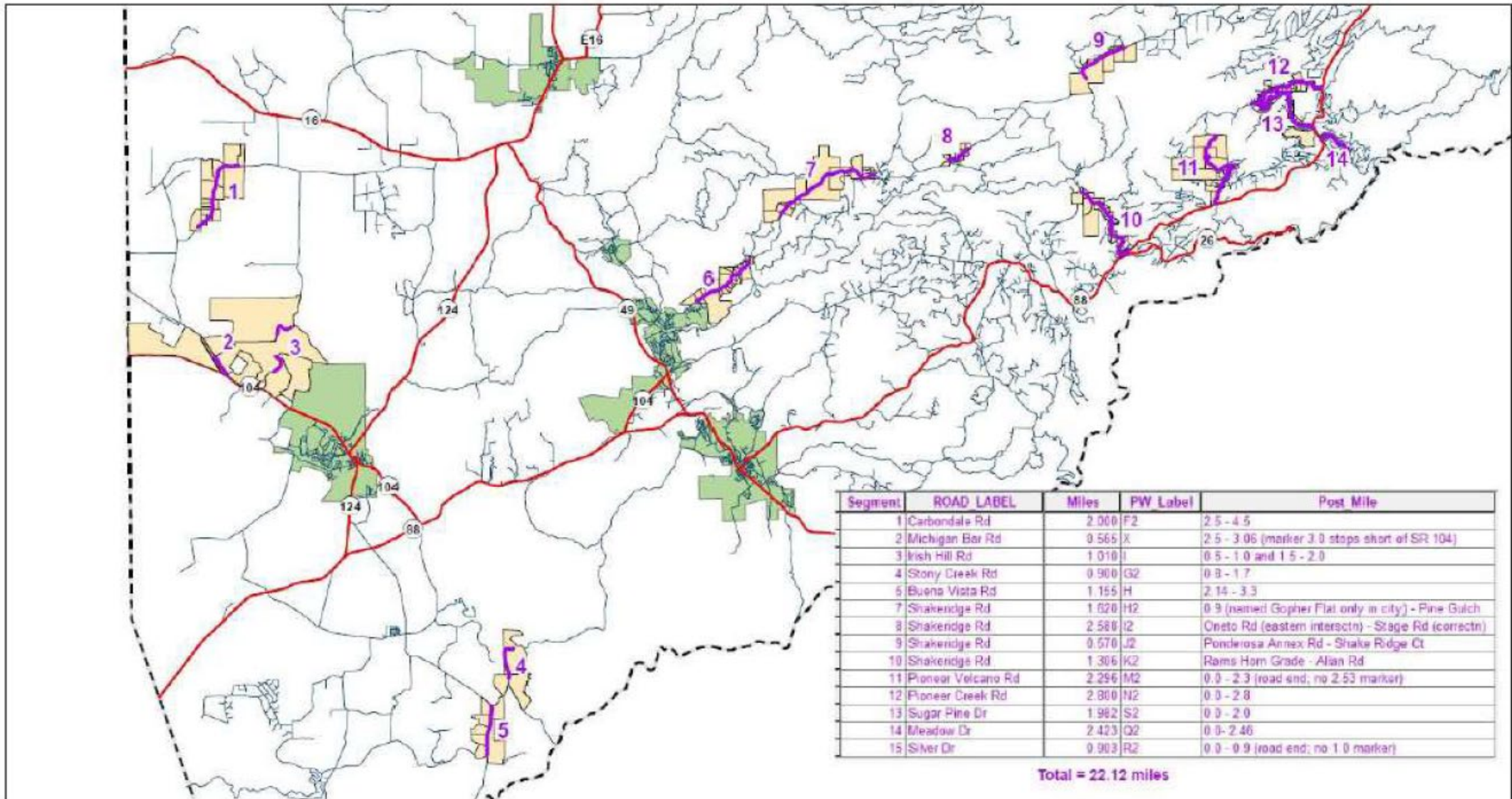
Benefits (quantify benefits, such as: number of parcels/residents benefitting from work, acreage protected):

How will the project be maintained over the next 10 years?: \_\_\_\_\_

The public is invited to the AFSC board meeting to discuss potential projects.  
Check out the AFSC website to see examples of past projects  
[www.AmadorFireSafe.org](http://www.AmadorFireSafe.org)

**AFSC Board Meeting**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month  
3pm – 5pm  
Volcano Communications Team  
(Behind to the Pine C  
19888 Church Stre





### Index Map

- Public Works Priority Segments
- Parcels Adjacent to Priority Segments
- Road
- City Limits
- State Highways
- Amador County Boundary

## Amador County Transportation and Public Works Ingress/Egress Project Priority Segments and Adjacent Parcels



Map Date: August, 2021

Map by: Cindy Engel, GIS Coordinator  
Amador County Transportation Commission  
117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, CA 95688; 209-267-2283

# What's Next?

- + AFSC will be using the County's right of way and CEQA documentation on County Roads.
- + AFSC has been working with CalFire to develop a Mitigated Negative Declaration to meet CEQA requirements for work on the private road work.
  - + Anticipating that this will be completed late Spring/Early Summer 2022.
  - + CalFire is the lead agency for the document and AFSC is providing the resource information.
  - + This document covers all private roads in Amador County and will allow the AFSC to do road work with public funds for not only this project for projects in the future.
- + Communities identify priority road sections. AFSC will work with communities to get Rights of Entry for properties along all roadways. This is an incredibly time consuming and important part of the project.

# FireWise Communities Development



Community Strategic Planning



Create a network of neighbors



Plan Projects



Helps to get Project Funding



'Start Up' Assistance Available through AFSC



**FIREWISE USA**<sup>®</sup>  
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS





Thank You!

Amanda Watson

[AmadorFireSafe@gmail.com](mailto:AmadorFireSafe@gmail.com)

[www.AmadorFireSafe.org](http://www.AmadorFireSafe.org)



# Current Community Projects

updated: 3/10/22

Listed below are the community submitted projects that have been reviewed and selected as projects that the AFSC will endeavor to complete. The AFSC does not guarantee that projects on this list will be completed. completion of these projects will depend on available funding, AFSC capacity, and community support of these projects.

Area Name	Anticipated Funding Source	Project Type/Notes	Status
<b>Ingress/Egress Projects</b>			
Old Giannini Ranch Road I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Partially Completed
Oak Lane I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road/ fencing issues	Awaiting CEQA
KC Ranchettes	CalFire Grant	Road Association Support Project	Awaiting CEQA
Soke Springs Ranch E&I	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
10MileMark I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Dawn Ridge I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Fiddletown Park I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Clute Road I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Rolling Oaks I&E	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Running Gold	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Surrey Junction E&I	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
Stage Rd. E&I	CalFire Grant	20ft clearance of private road	Awaiting CEQA
<b>Community Fuel Breaks - funding dependent</b>			
Oak Hill FB	PG&E Grant (awaiting funding)	Brush removal/fuel reduction	Grant submitted
River Pines FB	CalFire Grant (awaiting funding)	Brush removal/fuel reduction	Grant submitted
Stage Rd. PP FB	CalFire Grant (awaiting funding)	Brush removal/fuel reduction 4 parcels and possible BLM parcels	Awaiting funding
Kennedy Mine FB	PG&E (awaiting funding)	Brush removal/fuel reduction	Partially Completed
<b>Other Assistance Request</b>			
Burke Ranch FireWise Community Assistance	CalFire Grant	FireWise Initial Start-up funds- \$2500. Firewise Community Member Award- \$500/annually.	Board discussion needed

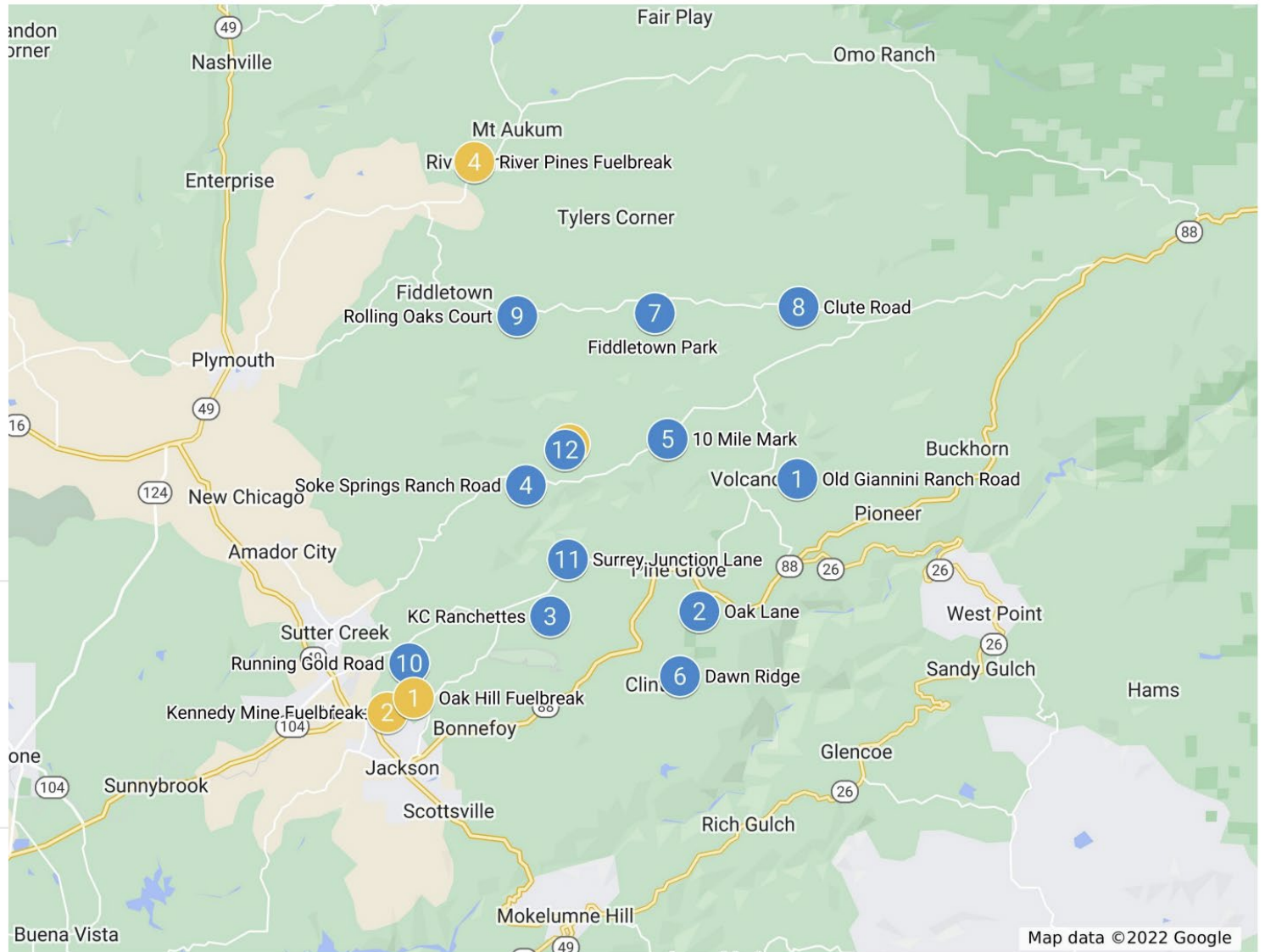
# 2022 AFSC Community Projects

## Ingress & Egress Projects

- 1 Old Giannini Ranch Road
- 2 Oak Lane
- 3 KC Ranchettes
- 4 Soke Springs Ranch Road
- 5 10 Mile Mark
- 6 Dawn Ridge
- 7 Fiddletown Park
- 8 Clute Road
- 9 Rolling Oaks Court
- 10 Running Gold Road
- 11 Surrey Junction Lane
- 12 Stage Road

## Community Fuelbreaks

- 1 Oak Hill Fuelbreak
- 2 Kennedy Mine Fuelbreak
- 3 Stage Road Fuelbreak
- 4 River Pines Fuelbreak



## Amador Fire Safe Council

### Website Outline

URL: [www.AmadorFireSafe.org](http://www.AmadorFireSafe.org)

*Note: Each main title is its own page, when there is a down arrow next to the tab name if you hover over it there is a drop downs and these are individual subpages*

Home Page: Welcome and Links to relevant pages. Regular meeting time & location posted

#### Get Prepared

- Fire Prevention

- Before you burn

- Community Wildfire Plans (CWPP)

- Firewise Communities

- Contractor List

- Insurance Agency information

- Tree Mortality

- Home Hardening

#### Resources

##### Emergency Info

- Evacuation Preparation & Routes

- Weather

##### Event & News

- Hot Topics

- Calendar of Events

##### About

- Meet the Fire Safe Council

- Board Agenda & Minutes

- Employment

Cooperators

Projects

Propose a Project

Current Projects

In-Development Projects

Past Projects

Contact Us